

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Licensed Ophthalmic Dispensers

FROM: Granville Smith, Chairman

RE: Training Schedule for Apprentice Ophthalmic Dispensers

DATE: May 26, 1999

Beginning July 1, 1999, applications for licensure as an apprentice ophthalmic dispenser must include the filing of an outline of a training schedule proposed by the sponsor.

According to KRS 326.035 it is the responsibility of the sponsor to provide a training schedule that meets the requirements of the laws and regulations and also satisfies the board that the facilities of his establishment are sufficient to provide such training. **After July 1, 1999, you must prepare a training schedule that fulfills the requirements of 326.035(5) and 201 KAR 13:050(5) and file it with the application. Applications submitted without the training schedule will be considered incomplete and will be returned to the applicant.**

Enclosed please find a model-training schedule that identifies many of the areas that training should include and information on reference books available for apprentice study.

Should you have additional questions, please contact our office at 502-564-3296, ext. 227.

The Kentucky Board of Ophthalmic Dispensers

KRS 326.035 (5) states that:

“A sponsor of an apprentice shall file with the Board an outline of the training schedule that the sponsor proposes to follow in training the apprentice....”

**This requirement is also set forth in
201 KAR 13:050 Section 2 (5).**

The filing of the training schedule is meant to help ensure that the sponsor understands the importance of training the apprentice in all phases of ophthalmic dispensing, and ensuring that adequate training is being provided to the apprentice.

As an aid to supervising apprentice ophthalmic dispensers and to help ensure that the training is adequate, the Board is issuing a model-training schedule which identifies many of the areas that training should include. Although the model is extensive, it is not necessarily all-inclusive. **It is the responsibility of the sponsors to provide a training schedule that meets the requirements of the law and regulations.** Furthermore, it is the responsibility of persons applying to obtain a license as an ophthalmic dispenser under KRS 326.040 (2) to submit evidence to the Board that he has obtained the required satisfactory training and experience in ophthalmic dispensing.

TOPIC OF STUDY AND AREAS OF TRAINING FOR APPRENTICE OPTICIANS

- Use a manual & automatic lensometer
- Locate and identify the axis of a lens
- Determine center thickness of a lens
- Use a pupilometer and P.D. ruler
- Determine patient's reg. & monocular P.D.S.
- How to determine lens decentration
- Check for vertical & lateral prism
- Know when slab-off prism is indicated
- How to use a lens clock
- How to check + & - curves w/lens clock
- How to determine frame measurements
- Check for lens warpage w/lens clock
- How to determine frame measurements
- How to check A.-B. & ED of a frame
- What is vertex & effects on vision
- How to measure vertex distance
- Know different multifocal styles
- What is pantoscopic/retroscopic tilt?

- How does this tilt affect patients vision?

LENS TYPES AND MATERIALS

Knowledge of glass plastic, polycarbonate and high index lenses.

The advantages and disadvantages of each type material and center thickness available.

Know the different segment styles available.

Knowledge of tints and coatings available for each different type of material.

Specialty tints available, such as transitions, photogrey, photosun, etc.

Know about U.V. coating, how it protects and how to check a lens for the coating.

FITTING THE PATIENT

How to determine frame size & temple length.

How to determine bridge style and size.

How to raise/lower O/c for best visual acuity.

Measure p/v & p/h on progressive multifocals.

Measure reg.seg hts. And how to use them.

Explain proper care & treatment of lens.

SAFETY FRAMES AND LENS

Who is O.S.H.A.? What are safety glasses?

What are the A.N.Z. I. Standards?

What is a safety lens and how does it differ from a regular lens?

How to identify a safety frame & lenses.

What is thickness requirements on lenses?

CONTACT LENSES

Have full working knowledge of the keratometer.

How to use a lens thickness gauge.

How to use V channel gauge for diameter.

How too measure corneal diameter with a P.D. ruler.

How to evaluate the fit of a contact lens.

How to evaluate the Rx of a rigid contact lens

How to evaluate and deal with emergency situations

Reference Books for Apprentice Study

OPTICAL FORMULAS (Tutorial)

Available: Opticianry Program Director
Durham Technical Community College
1637 E Lawson St
Durham, NC 27703
(919) 686-3448

PROFESSIONAL DISPENSING (OAA)

Available: Opticians Association of America
10341 Democracy Ln
Fairfax, VA 22030-2521
(703) 691-8355

CONTACT LENS MANUAL & TEST REVIEW FOR CONTACT LENS TECHNICIANS

Available: Contact Lens Society of America
441 Carlisle Dr
Reston, VA 20170
(703) 437-5100